

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed June 6, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1 –13 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4, and 7-13 stand rejected. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 12 are independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 6 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, applicants request reconsideration of this rejection based upon a review of FIG. 5 and description of the subject matter found in base claim 1 as described in the specification.

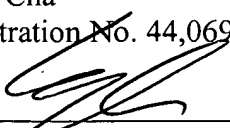
As set forth in applicant's disclosure on page 11, line 9 -11, "[t]he AWG 130 ... **outputs** the branched incoherent channels to the N Fabry-Perot laser modules 200" (emphasis added). In addition as further described in applicant's disclosure, page 11, line 12-13, "... the AWG 130 multiplexes wavelength-locked light **inputted from** the Fabry-Perot laser modules 200 to output it to the second port of the circulator 120" (emphasis added). Applicants maintain that the above cited language supports the claim as currently written wherein "a Fabry-Perot laser for receiving spectrum-spliced incoherent light to amplify and output only an oscillation mode matching with a wavelength of the injected light." Accordingly, one of ordinary skilled in the art, after inspecting FIG. 5 and reading the disclosure would understand that "received" defines the branched incoherent channels **output from** the AWG and "injected" defines the wavelength-locked light **inputted from** the Fabry-Perot laser modules. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

Applicants wish to thank the examiner for indicating that claims 5 and 6 would be deemed allowable subject matter if applicants rewrite the claims in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response claims 1, 7, 9 and 12 have been amended to combine the limitations found in dependent claims 2, 5 and 6. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations found in claim 2 and 5. Claim 7 was amended to incorporate the limitations found in claim 6. Claims 8 and 11 have been amended to incorporate the limitations in claims 2 and 5. Claims 2 and 5 have been canceled and claims 4 and 6 have been amended to properly reflect that they now depended from base claim 1.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the objection and rejections are respectfully requested to be withdrawn, and an early action on the merits of the Claims is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date:

9/6/06

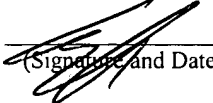
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